

# ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE VARIOUS

## BOARDS OF TOWN OFFICERS

OF THE

# TOWN OF MENDON,

INCLUDING REPORT OF THE

## SCHOOL COMMITTEE

FOR THE

**Municipal Year Ending March 5, 1900.**

[233d ANNUAL REPORT.]

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MILFORD. MASS.,  
COOK & SONS, PRINTERS,  
1900.

## TREASURER'S REPORT.

The undersigned, Treasurer of the Town of Mendon, for the municipal year ending March 5, 1900, respectfully submits an account of his doings.

The Treasurer debits himself with paying the following items, viz :

To cash received of the Treasurer for the year ending March 6, 1899.....	\$715 94
To cash borrowed on four town notes.....	3,500 00
To cash received of Jerome S. Daniels, for redemption of land.....	20 36
To cash received of Mrs. I. O. Rhodes, for use of telephone.....	35 48
To cash received of Edward C. Kinsley, janitor Town Hall.....	115 50
To cash received of John Byrnes, butcher's license.....	1 00
To cash received of I. O. Rhodes.....	1 00
"      "      S. Warren Cook, auctioneer.....	2 00
To cash received of Geo. M. Taft, timber	1 00
"      "      Committee on Memorial Day.....	10 22
To cash received of Town of Uxbridge, for aid to Malinda Cummings.....	14 50
To cash received of Clark Ellis & Sons, error.....	50
To cash received of State Treasurer, Corporation Tax for 1899.....	66 85
To cash received of State Treasurer, National Bank tax.....	427 35
To cash received of State Treasurer, state aid, Chap. 301, Acts 1894.....	435 00
To cash received of State Treasurer, school fund.....	394 38
To cash received of County Treasurer, dog tax.....	160 74
To cash received of State Treasurer, for support of state paupers.....	65 05
To cash received of Daniel H. Barnes, use of hay scales.....	10 35
To cash received of George M. Taft, collector of taxes for 1897.....	54 66



To cash received of George M. Taft, collector of taxes for 1898.....	\$ 517 24	
To cash received of George M. Taft, collector of taxes for 1899.....	6454 01	
	<u>          </u>	\$13,003 13

The treasurer credits himself with paying the following sums, viz:

By paying 106 town orders.....	\$8,016 61	
“ “ 3 town notes.....	3,000 00	
“ “ interest on 3 town notes.....	65 00	
“ “ school committee.....	555 12	
“ “ state tax.....	315 00	
“ “ county tax.....	646 00	
By cash on hand.....	405 40	
	<u>          </u>	\$13,003 13

GEO. M. TAFT,  
Treasurer.

Mendon, Feb. 17, 1900.

#### AUSTIN WOOD RELIEF FUND.

##### DR.

To cash received of Geo. M. Taft, treasurer for 1898 and 1899, deposited in Milford Savings Bank.....	\$1,008 10	
To cash received deposited in Worcester County Institution for Savings.....	390 03	
To cash received, interest of Milford Savings Bank to Oct, 1, 1899.....	40 50	
To cash received, interest of Worcester County Institution for Savings to Jan. 1, 1900.....	15 59	
To cash received of E. C. Kinsley, for stove sold.....	2 50	
Total.....	<u>          </u>	\$1,456 72

##### CR.

By cash paid five orders.....	\$51 25	
“ deposited in Milford Savings Bank.....	999 85	
By cash deposited in Worcester County Institution for Savings.....	405 62	
	<u>          </u>	\$1,456 72

Respectfully submitted,  
GEORGE M. TAFT, Treasurer.

Mendon, Feb. 17, 1900.

## SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

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The Selectmen respectfully submit the following report of the expenditures of the town for the municipal year ending March 5, 1900:

### INCIDENTALS.

S. E. Everton, sawing wood at town officers' room.....	\$1 50
John C. Wood, erecting corner stone between Mendon, Northbridge and Uxbridge.....	1 00
Clark Ellis & Sons, for drain pipe at Mission church.....	34 00
L. E. Wheeler, carting drain pipe from Milford.....	2 00
C. I. Barnes, services nights of July 3 and 4, 1897 and 1898.....	4 00
H. H. Lent, lumber and repairs at hay scales.....	40 30
A. A. Jenkins, services in criminal case.....	9 45
H. C. Snell, " " " ".....	9 47
S. E. Hapgood, hack and driver to Upton and Mendon to meet state highway commission.....	8 00
A. W. Brownell, for canvassing blanks.....	1 50
Clark Ellis & Sons, for labor at watering tub.....	1 15
Hamilton Boyd, for serving search warrant at Mendon Hotel.....	7 50
Wm. Johnston & Co., mason work at hay scales.....	15 15
Clark Ellis & Sons, suction pump.....	2 00
George M. Taft, work in old cemetery.....	7 00
Jacob R. Brown, making and setting box for town water standpipe.....	4 00
Geo. M. Taft, plank and labor on box for town water standpipe.....	2 00
Clark Ellis & Sons, for labor on water works.....	2 00
Edw. C. Kinsley, work at the monument.....	2 35
" " services nights of July 3 and 4.....	2 00
J. A. George, Mendon's proportion of the cost of publishing Mendon Proprietors' Records.....	50 00
J. L. Davenport, repairs at Town Hall.....	3 00
J. L. Davenport, woodhouse at lockup.....	24 57
Clark Ellis & Sons, labor and supplies at town hall....	16 02
W. J. Fresn, work at Town Hall.....	3 66
John M. Towne, work on overflow pipe.....	1 00
E. C. Barry, for repairs at lockup.....	75
J. L. Davenport, lumber and labor at town officers' rooms .....	7 00

R. C. Fish, reporting five births.....	\$ 1 25
Horace C. Adams, insurance on town property.....	113 87
Clark Ellis & Sons, labor at watering tub.....	1 65
Emery & Wood, returning 12 deaths.....	3 00
E. L. Smith, fire ward, cash paid out at Cromb fire..	2 75
Geo. M. Taft, coal for fire department.....	10 47
“ “ supplies for extinguisher and express	3 30
Clark Ellis & Sons, hose and clasps for fire department.....	10 30
Edw. C. Kinsley, fire ward, cash paid out at Beals fire.....	2 25
Geo. M. Taft, rent of extinguisher room and care of fire .....	16 00
Mrs. I. O. Rhodes, operator, use of telephone one year to March, 1900 .....	57 80
L. Freeman, cash paid out.....	2 29
D. H. Barnes, teaming and services nights July 3 and 4 .....	3 00
A. W. Gaskill, wood for town officers' room.....	2 00
Jesse A. Taft, counsel, services concerni.g street railway.....	25 00
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	\$517 30

## TOWN OFFICERS.

Charles H. Allen, auditor for 1898.....	\$6 00
Gilbert Gaskill, lockup keeper.....	5 00
Henry W. Gaskill, assessor, express and postage.....	37 84
W. S. Wilcox, assessor.....	41 25
C. A. Fletcher, assessor.....	35 00
H. S. Coleman, ballot clerk at state election.....	1 50
J. E. Darling, ballot clerk at state election.....	1 50
Charles I. Barnes, constable to March 5, 1900, and services nights July 3 and 4 and cash paid.....	19 00
Horace C. Adams, election officer, registrar.....	28 08
Horace C. Adams, recording births, marriages and deaths.....	9 70
Horace C. Adams, transcribing and indexing two volumes, marriage intentions and marriages.....	25 00
Geo. M. Taft, treasurer.....	50 00
“ “ selectman and registrar.....	30 00
Edward C. Kinsley, selectman and registrar.....	30 00
Liberty Freeman, selectman and registrar.....	50 00
E. L. Smith, services as fire ward.....	6 85
Edward C. Kinsley, services as fire ward.....	9 20
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	\$385 92

## AUSTIN WOOD RELIEF FUND.

Cash paid out, 5 orders.....	\$51 25
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## HIGHWAY SURVEYOR.

Frank Taft, for repairing roads and bridges.....	\$1500 00
“ “ cleaning roads of snow during last year....	344 72
“ “ to settle T. J. Lapham bill.....	23 00
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	\$1,867 72

## PRINTING.

G. M. Billings.....	\$ 2 75
Cook & Sons.....	67 25
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	\$70 00

## TAFT PUBLIC LIBRARY.

Paid trustees two orders.....	\$145 00
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## MEMORIAL DAY.

Paid committee.....	\$50 00
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## CARE AND SUPPLIES OF TOWN HALL.

Edward C. Kinsley, care of hall to April 1, 1899, and cash paid out.....	\$99 85
Williams Bros., coal.....	43 84
E. H. Taft, wood.....	3 00
Lutheria Alger, cleaning.....	8 45
Williams Bros., coal.....	15 75
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	\$170 89

## SUPPORT OF SCHOOLS, SCHOOL BOOKS AND INCIDENTALS.

Paid School Committee.....	\$2,800 00
Suppression of truancy.....	52 00
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	\$2,852 00

## SUPPORT OF POOR.

Paid overseers of poor, thirteen town orders.....	\$1,370 00
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## SOLDIERS BURIAL, CHAPTER 279, ACTS OF 1896.

Caleb V. A. Smith.....	\$35 00
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## SOLDIERS' RELIEF, CHAPTER 447, ACTS OF 1890.

Malinda W. Cummings [to Uxbridge] .....	\$14 50
Stephen H. Scisco.....	22 88
Caleb V. A. Smith.....	7 40

STATE AID TO PENSIONERS UNDER CHAPTER 374,  
ACTS OF 1899.

Joanna Curley.....	\$48 00
Malinda W. Cummings.....	48 00
Rufus Hazard.....	48 00
George W. Scisco.....	48 00
Caleb V. A. Smith.....	4 00
Waterman Taft.....	48 00
Annette L. Weatherhead.....	48 00
George Wilber.....	40 00
Stephen H. Scisco.....	36 00
Eliza A. Munsell.....	48 00
Sarah Gifford.....	48 00
John S. McDonald.....	44 00

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\$508 00

## RECAPITULATION.

Incidentals .....	\$517 30
Town officers.....	385 92
Roads and bridges.....	1,500 00
Snow bills (last year) .....	344 72
T. J. Lapham bill.....	23 00
Printing.....	70 00
Taft Public Library.....	145 00
Memorial day.....	50 00
Town hall.....	170 89
Schools.....	2,800 00
Suppression of truancy.....	52 00
Poor .....	1,370 00
Soldiers' burial.....	35 00
Chapter 447, Acts of 1890, M. W. Cummings.....	14 50
"      "      "      "      " S. H. Scisco.....	22 88
"      "      "      "      " C. V. A. Smith.....	7 40
"      374      "      "      1899.....	508 00

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\$8,016 61

The selectmen report the available assets of the town, known to them, as follows:

Due from collector of 1897.....	\$12 22
“ “ “ “ 1898.....	158 57
“ “ “ “ 1899.....	675 71
Due from state aid to soldiers, chap. 374, to Jan. 1, 1900, 12 months.....	506 00
Due from state aid to soldiers, chap. 374, to Mar. 1, 1900, 2 months.....	86 00
Due from state, burial of soldier C. V. A. Smith.....	35 00
Cash in hands of treasurer.....	\$405 40
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	\$1,878 90

The liabilities of the town, so far as known, are as follows:

Outstanding bills, estimated.....	\$50 00
Due town officers, estimated.....	200 00
Austin Taft note.....	500 00
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	\$750 00
Net balance in favor of town.....	\$1128 90

Respectfully submitted,  
LIBERTY FREEMAN,  
GEORGE M. TAFT,  
EDWARD C. KINSLEY,  
Selectmen of Mendon.

Mendon, Feb. 17, 1900.

#### APPROPRIATIONS FOR 1899.

		DRAWN.
Schools.....	\$2,800 00	\$2800 00
Suppression of truancy.....	52 00	52 00
Support of poor.....	1400 00	1370 00
Repairs of roads and bridges.....	1500 00	1500 00
Taft Public Library.....	175 00	145 00
Memorial Day.....	50 00	50 00
Interest.....	50 00	65 00
Soldiers' relief and military aid.....	50 00	44 78
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$6077 00	\$6026 78



# HIGHWAY SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

The highway surveyor submits the following report for the year ending March 5, 1900.

He debits himself with cash on hand March 6, 1899	\$ 20 00
“ “ “ with cash on 21 orders.....	1,867 72

\$1,887 72

He credits himself by paying the following bills:—

Lyman E. Wheeler, for labor with team.....	221 20
Chas. T. Aldrich, “ “ “ .....	97 00
C. B. Williams, “ “ “ .....	75 60
Elias T. Bates, “ “ “ .....	10 00
Joseph Scrivens, “ “ “ .....	5 80
Michael Head, “ on repairs .....	184 76
Dennis Kelly, “ “ “ .....	144 58
John M. Towne, “ “ “ .....	157 45
Samuel E. Everton, “ “ “ .....	47 70
Alphonse St. Lawrent, “ “ “ .....	30 50
G. R. Ford, “ “ “ .....	30
James A. Moore, “ “ “ .....	30
Eugene Coffin, “ “ “ .....	45
Alderman C. Cook, “ “ “ .....	10 25
A. I. Barrows, “ “ “ .....	6 86
Roman Tarrio, “ “ “ .....	4 50
Henry Moores, “ “ “ .....	1 50
John C. Wood, “ “ “ .....	1 05
F. E. Barrows, “ “ “ .....	75
Gilbert Gaskill, “ “ “ .....	1 00
Frank Taft, as highway surveyor.....	324 83
David Adams, gravel.....	8 00
A. D. Davenport “ .....	8 96
Harriet Swan, “ .....	25 44
Harriet F. Pond, “ .....	6 30
Walter Scott, “ .....	1 50
A. M. Seagrave, “ .....	5 36
Henry W. Gaskill, “ .....	5 76
Edward Dudley, “ .....	36 32
Lewis B. Gaskill, “ .....	1 85
A. W. Gaskill, plank and posts for bridge.....	11 30
C. B. Williams, “ “ “ .....	1 24
H. A. Barney, “ “ “ .....	16 00



R. C. Eldridge, supplies.....	\$	40
Ethan Claflin, ".....		1 25
Clark Ellis & Sons, ".....		23 06
A. Morin, ".....		6 71
Annie Lawless, ".....		50
R. Folger, ".....		4 00
Williams & Williams, for advice.....		1 00
Jesse A. Taft, ".....		1 00
John Barry estate, repairs.....		3 85
A. Morin, ".....		2 32
Albion Gaskill, ".....		30
J. B. Driscoll, ".....		1 20
		<hr/>
		\$1,500 00

## SNOW BILLS.

Lyman E. Wheeler, for labor with team and shoveling snow.....	13 60
Frank Dewolfe, for labor with team and shoveling snow.....	38 03
Elias T. Bates, for labor with team and shoveling snow.....	37 60
W. C. Robinson, for labor with team and shoveling snow.....	35 53
Nathan M. Daniels, for labor with team and shoveling snow.....	38 20
Davis Hill, for labor with team and shoveling snow.....	45 31
Darius D. Henry, for labor with team and shoveling snow.....	9 95
Henry W. Gaskill, for labor with team and shoveling snow.....	17 55
Frank H. Wood, for labor with team and shoveling snow.....	14 55
Edward H. Taft, for labor with team and shoveling snow.....	29 54
Thomas J. Lapham, for labor with team and shoveling snow.....	23 00
I. O. Rhodes, for shoveling snow.....	3 30
Arthur L. Read, " ".....	3 15
Samuel E. Everton, " ".....	6 30
Thomas H. Pierce, " ".....	3 08
Dennis Kelley, " ".....	9 00
John M. Towne, " ".....	8 25
Edward L. Cook, " ".....	1 80
Walter I. Smith, " ".....	1 28

Herbert Whiting, for shoveling snow .....	\$ 60
Glenville C. Coffin, " " .....	6 30
A. Veits G. Pond, " " .....	1 05
James E. Darling, " " .....	3 00
Michael Head, " " .....	8 40
Frank Taft, " " .....	26 25
Luther Holbrook, " " .....	2 85
Annie Lawless, book .....	25
	<hr/>
	\$387 72
Team work.....	\$409 60
Appropriation for general repairs.....	\$1,500 00
Amount expended for general repairs.....	\$1,500 00
" " " clearing roads of snow.....	387 72
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	\$1,887 72

Respectfully submitted,

FRANK TAFT,

Highway Surveyor.

Mendon, Feb. 17, 1900.

# COLLECTOR'S REPORT.

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DR.

Balance uncollected Feb. 18, 1899.....	\$57 45	
Interest received.....	9 43	
	<hr/>	\$66 88

CR.

By cash paid Treasurer.....	\$54 66	
Amount uncollected Feb. 17, 1900.....	12 22	
	<hr/>	\$66 88

GEO. M. TAFT,  
Collector of Taxes, 1897.

Mendon, Feb. 17, 1900.

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DR.

Balance uncollected Feb. 18, 1899.....	\$648 75	
Interest received.....	27 06	
	<hr/>	\$675 81

CR.

By cash paid Treasurer.....	\$517 24	
Amount uncollected Feb. 17, 1900.....	158 57	
	<hr/>	\$675 81

GEO. M. TAFT,  
Collector of Taxes, 1898.

Mendon, Feb. 17, 1900.

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DR.

To taxes committed for assessment.....	\$7,097 55	
Extra assessment.....	3 00	
Interest received.....	29 17	
	<hr/>	\$7,129 72

CR.

By cash paid Treasurer.....	\$6,454 01	
Amount uncollected Feb. 17, 1900.....	675 71	
	<hr/>	\$7,129 72

GEO. M. TAFT,  
Collector of Taxes, 1899.

Mendon, Feb. 17, 1900.

# REPORT OF THE OVERSEERS OF POOR.

The Overseers of Poor submit the following report for the municipal year ending March 5, 1900.

John W. Barry, Dennis Holland, Edna Allen, Edna French, Sarah Best, Annie J. Bates, Sarah Gabry, Horace H. Parkhurst, children of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis D. Chipman, and Washington Coleman (having a settlement in Mendon,) Samuel E. Everton and family (belonging to Uxbridge,) Lewis D. Chipman (a state pauper,) Timothy Casey family (having a settlement in Northbridge,) George W. Scisco, Jr., (belonging to Milford,) have been wholly or partially supported.

The Overseers charge themselves with the receipt of the following named funds belonging to the town :

Balance on hand.....	\$7 18
Thirteen town orders.....	1370 00
Town of Northbridge.....	5 50
Chipman furniture sold (net).....	32 91
Town of Milford.....	5 00
Town of Uxbridge.....	20 62

\$1441 21

The Overseers credit themselves with paying the following amounts :

For support of :

John W. Barry.....	\$118 38
Dennis Holland.....	169 46
Edna Allen.....	135 00
Edna French.....	5 50
Sarah Best.....	15 00
Annie J. Bates.....	7 32
Sarah Gabry.....	85 00
Horace H. Parkhurst.....	70 00
Children of Mr. and Mrs. L. D. Chipman.....	59 55
Washington Coleman.....	484 50
Samuel E. Everton and family.....	20 62
Lewis D. Chipman.....	97 46
Timothy Casey family.....	5 50
George W. Scisco, Jr.....	5 00

Gilbert Gaskill, care of tramps to April 1, 1899	\$ 44 63
Erwin A. Snow, care of tramps to Dec. 1, 1899	21 45
Geo. P. Walcott, blankets for tramp house.....	3 75
Geo. R. Ford, services.....	6 00
Gilbert Gaskill, services.....	6 00
Liberty Freeman, services.....	40 00
Cash on hand to balance.....	41 09

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\$1,441 21

From the whole amount paid for the support of the poor .....	\$1,400 12
Deduct what was due for the support of the poor to March 6, 1899.....	119 18
What has been paid out for S. E. Everton family.....	20 62
What has been paid out for Lewis D. Chipman.....	97 46
What has been paid out for Timothy Casey family.....	5 50
What has been paid out for George W. Scisco, Jr.....	5 00
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	\$247 76

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\$1,152 36

Add what will be due for support of poor to March 5, 1900.....	156 80
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Cost of supporting the poor for the year ending March 5, 1900.....	\$1,309 16
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Respectfully submitted,

LIBERTY FREEMAN,  
GILBERT GASKILL,  
GEORGE R. FORD,

Overseers of the Poor.

Mendon, Feb. 10, 1900.

# REPORT OF TOWN CLERK.

## DOGS REGISTERED IN 1899.

78 male dogs	\$156 00	
8 female dogs	40 00	
	<hr/>	\$196 00
Registration fees	\$17 20	
Paid County Treasurer	178 80	
	<hr/>	\$196 00

## BIRTHS REGISTERED IN 1899.

DATE OF BIRTH, 1899.	NAME OF CHILD.	PARENTS.
Mar. 12,	Holland Orville McVeity,	William and Annie S. McVeity.
Apr. 22,	Female.	
May 19,	John Wheelock Towne,	John M. and Kate M. Towne.
May 25,	Roy George Scriven,	George and Margaret A. Scriven.
July 22,	Charles Henry Holbrook,	Morton A. and Cora B. Holbrook.
Sept. 6,	Huldah Margaret Thayer,	George E. and Minnie F. Thayer.
Sept. 11,	Florence Harrington,	Michael T. and Mary J. Harrington.
Oct. 14,	Edith Louise Barrows,	Frank E. and Ellen E. Barrows.
Oct. 14,	Lewis James Warner,	Nelson D. and Bertha L. Warner.
Dec. 9,	George Kenneth Taft,	Geo. M. and Emma A. Taft.

## MARRIAGES REGISTERED IN 1899.

DATE OF MARRIAGE.	NAMES OF GROOM AND BRIDE.	RESIDENCE.
1899.		
Jan. 18,	Nelson Dwight Warner,	Mendon.
	Bertha Louise Whipple,	Woonsocket, R. I.
Mar. 26,	Stephen Elmer Alger,	Mendon.
	Mary Johnson,	Mendon.
April 12,	Joseph Henry Dudley,	Mendon.
	Eva May Taylor,	Uxbridge.
June 28,	Moses Uri Gaskill,	Mendon.
	Sarah Elizabeth Billings,	Bellingham.
July 18,	Thomas Francis Lee,	Woonsocket, R. I.
	Annie Tucker,	Smithfield, R. I.
Oct. 15,	Carl Rudolph Olson,	Mendon.
	Elsie Christine Gruben.	Mendon.
Oct. 25,	Norman Ernest Wheeler,	Mendon.
	Ruth Helena Goldthwaite,	Uxbridge.
Nov. 30,	Fred Walter Thomas,	Mendon.
	Lilly Boon Wheeler,	Mendon.
Dec. 25,	Alfred James Griffin,	Windsor, Me.
	Myra Eldora Barrows,	Mendon.

## DEATHS REGISTERED IN 1899.

DATE OF DEATH, 1899.	NAME.	AGE			RESIDENCE.
		Y.	M.	D.	
Jan. 13.	Willis Southwick,	78	6	12	Mendon.
Feb. 12.	Leon Joseph Scriven,	1	—	8	Mendon.
Feb. 13.	Maud Elsie Vose,	1	1	23	Cumberland, R. I.
Feb. 14.	Roy L. Newman,	2	6	25	Mendon.
Feb. 18.	Mary Jane Scisco,	61	1	24	Mendon.
Mar. 2.	William Arthur Brown,	2	9	—	Mendon.
Apr. 2.	Louisa Wilbur,	76	4	4	Mendon.
Apr. 2.	Lilla E. Little,	43	6	13	Mendon.
Apr. 8.	Caleb V. A. Smith,	62	—	26	Mendon.
May 8.	John Milton Fowler,	84	4	24	Mendon.
May 21.	Lewis D. Chipman,	34	11	19	Mendon.
June 3.	Alson S. Little,	54	1	27	Mendon.
June 16.	Minnie Dianna Gaskill,	26	6	13	Mendon.
Aug. 4.	Mary J. Kelly,	20	10	0	Mendon.
Sept. 18.	Silas Dudley,	66	8	28	Mendon.
Nov. 9.	Florence Harrington,		1	28	Mendon.
Nov. 18.	Jemima D. Hicks.	83	7	22	Mendon.

HORACE C. ADAMS,

Town Clerk.

Mendon, Feb. 16, 1900.



# NINETEENTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES OF TAFT PUBLIC LIBRARY.

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The Trustees submit the following report: The board reorganized April 15, 1899. They have to report that the library, under the charge of its efficient librarian, has been a source of usefulness and pleasure to its patrons the past year, an institution honorable to the town and to its generous donor.

The present librarian has been engaged for another year. The books were examined February 6, current, and found accounted for and in satisfactory condition. Two books that had been exposed to scarlet fever infection, have been burned. The library was reopened February 10, 1900.

One copy of the Annals of Mendon has been sold during the past year and one copy exchanged for a history of the town of Dudley, Mass.

The thanks of our citizens are tendered to all who have contributed books, magazines or literature of any kind to the library during the past year.

The trustees recommend the appropriation of one hundred and seventy-five dollars for the use of the library the ensuing year.

JULIUS A. GEORGE,  
HORACE C. ADAMS,  
ELMER E. SHERMAN,  
LIBERTY FREEMAN,

Trustees of Taft Public Library.

Mendon, Feb. 17, 1900.

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## LIBRARIAN'S REPORT.

### TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE TAFT PUBLIC LIBRARY:

The Library was reopened Feb. 11, 1899.

The whole number of books given out during the year, was 3496; the largest number delivered any Saturday, was 104; the smallest number, 46; the average, 69.

The delivery by divisions was as follows: Agriculture, 7; Biography, 32; Fiction, 2651; History, 84; Poetry, 38; Miscellaneous, 44; Periodicals, 499; Religion, 13; Science, 37; Travel, 71.

The town has purchased 79 volumes; 12 volumes have been given by the Secretary of the Commonwealth; 7 by the Secretary of the Interior; 5 by the Rev. C. A. Staples; 4 by the Smithsonian Institute; 2 by Wm. S. and Abbie B. Hayward; 1 by the Interstate Commerce Commission; 2 by the Bureau of Education; 1 by the State Library; 1 by the Civil Service Commission; 1 by Hon. J. H. Walker; 1 by the Unitarian Association.

The following unbound magazines have been given: 2 volumes of

The Outlook, by P. W. Taft; 2 volumes of Century, by N. R. George; 2 volumes of New England, by H. C. Adams; 2 volumes each of Harper's and Outing, by J. A. George, All have since been bound.

A number of pamphlets have also been given. Whole number of books, 4016.

Respectfully submitted,  
SARA F. TOWNE,  
Librarian.

### TREASURER'S REPORT.

Report of the Treasurer of the Trustees of the Taft Public Library for the year ending Feb. 8, 1900,

#### DR.

Balance from 1899 . . . . .	\$5 32
Cash received on two town orders . . . . .	145 00
Cash received for cards, fines, etc. . . . .	7 00
	<hr/>
	\$157 32

#### CR.

Cash paid G. M. Billings, for labels . . . . .	\$2 25
" " D. L. Brownell, for book . . . . .	2 50
" " A. H. H. Warren & Co., for binding . . . . .	5 00
" " C. A. Fletcher, for wood . . . . .	4 00
" " W. B. Clark & Co., for books . . . . .	80 53
" " Julius A. George, for labor on wood . . . . .	1 50
" " Sara F. Towne, salary . . . . .	50 00
Cash on hand . . . . .	11 57
	<hr/>
	\$157 32

Respectfully submitted,  
HORACE C. ADAMS,  
Treasurer.

Mendon, Feb. 17, 1900.

## AUDITOR'S REPORT.

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I have this day examined the accounts of all the Town Officers who have received or disbursed funds belonging to the Town for the Municipal year ending March 5, 1900, and find them correctly kept and properly vouched.

CHARLES H. ALLEN,  
Auditor.

Mendon, February 19, 1900.



REPORT  
OF THE  
SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
OF THE  
TOWN OF MENDON,  
FOR THE  
SCHOOL YEAR 1899-'00.

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MILFORD, MASS.:  
COOK & SONS, PRINTERS, JOURNAL OFFICE.  
1900.

ORGANIZATION OF  
SCHOOL COMMITTEE, 1899-1900.

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HENRY W. GASKILL, Chairman,	Term expires 1900
ERWIN A. SNOW, Secretary,	“ “ 1901
LEONARD E. TAFT,	“ “ 1902

SUPERINTENDENT,  
ELMER E. SHERMAN.

SCHOOL BOOK AGENT,  
ERWIN A. SNOW.

TRUANT OFFICERS,  
EDWARD C. KINSLEY, LYMAN COOK,  
ELMER E. SHERMAN.

# SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORT.

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TO THE CITIZENS OF THE TOWN OF MENDON:

The following report of the School Committee is respectfully submitted.

The care of school property was assigned as follows: North, Leonard E. Taft; Albeeville and West, Henry W. Gaskill; South, East and Center, Erwin A. Snow.

This year, as in former years, this report is made out two weeks before the close of the year; the pay of teachers, janitors and for transportation of scholars for these two weeks we have not given in detail, but have included the amount we have reason to expect it will be, in this report, thus giving the cost of the schools for a full year.

The outbuildings attached to the schoolhouse at the North have been removed, and as the ones at the South were good buildings and nearly new, and as we have no use for them there, they were moved to the North. This is an improvement that was much needed there.

The school buildings with the exception of the one in the East district, so-called, are in very good condition, with the exception of the floors; in the Center and Albeeville rooms the floors are worn out and should be replaced with new ones. It has been the policy of your Committee for several years to devote a certain amount each year to the improvement of some schoolroom or rooms. This year we have bought new single desks and chairs for the Primary room, and it is the intention to take enough from next year's appropriation to buy the same for the Grammar room, and unless some immediate action toward a new building is made, we shall ask the town for a special appropriation to put in new floors at the same time; also to change the doors of the schoolhouses to swing out instead of in, as they now do, in order to comply with the law. Should the town see fit to build a new school building at any time, these seats will be all right for that and the floors will be needed whether the rooms are used for schoolrooms or something else.

January sixteenth Joseph A. Morse, State Inspector of Public Buildings, inspected the Center and East buildings; the other buildings he did not visit, as it was understood that if a new building was built the children from these schools would in



all probability be brought to the Center. His letter to the chairman of the School Committee will be found in this report.

We would respectfully refer you to the annexed report of the Superintendent of Schools, which the Committee at its last meeting voted to accept, and have printed.

We would recommend an appropriation of twenty-eight hundred dollars for schools for the ensuing year.

## FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

### RECEIPTS.

Appropriation.....	\$2800 00	
Balance on hand, March 1, 1899.....	49 82	
Income from state school fund.....	394 38	
“ “ dog tax.....	160 74	
Received from the State on account of Superintendent.....	416 67	
Received for Tuition.....	35 00	
“ from janitor of Town Hall for rug.....	1 20	
Received from W. W. Nelson, for old lumber.....	3 00	
	<hr/>	\$3,860 81

### EXPENDITURES.

#### Teachers' wages :—

Newton D. Clark, High.....	\$525 53	
Vina A. Dole, Grammar.....	300 00	
Mrs. H. J. Flagg, Grammar.....	95 00	
Mary E. Dudley, Primary.....	340 00	
Florence E. Snow, North.....	306 00	
Ruth B. Cornwell, Albeeville.....	180 00	
Bessie Kelley, Albeeville.....	117 00	
Margaret Thompson, East.....	8 00	
Cora L. Edmands, East.....	96 00	
Annie B. Richardson, East.....	155 50	
	<hr/>	\$2,123 03

#### Fuel :—

Williams Bros., coal.....	\$51 00	
Henry W. Gaskill, wood and fitting.....		
the same, Albeeville.....	22 75	
E. A. Snow, wood and fitting the same Center and East.....	20 50	
L. E. Taft, wood and fitting the same, North.....	8 75	
	<hr/>	\$103 20

## Care of rooms:—

Florence E. Snow, North.....	\$17 00
Ruth B. Cornwell, Albeeville.....	8 40
Bessie Kelley, Albeeville.....	1 20
Walter Coffin, Albeeville.....	3 00
Cora L. Edmands, East.....	3 60
Annie B. Richardson, East.....	8 90
Margaret Thompson, East.....	30
Fred A. Snow, Center.....	34 00
Mrs. Alger, cleaning Center.....	6 00
Mrs. Alger, cleaning Albeeville.....	4 50
Mrs. Head, cleaning North.....	5 00
Mrs. Cook, cleaning East.....	1 00

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 \$92 90

## Transportation:—

George M. Taft.....	\$170 00
Alfred I. Barrows.....	169 00

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 \$339 00

## Text books and supplies:—

Amount purchased as per report of school book agent.....	\$164 99
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## Apparatus:—

American Book Co.....	\$7 39
D. C. Heath & Co.....	1 59
Ginn & Co.....	8 79
Edward E. Bath & Co.....	4 20
Houghton, Mifflin & Co.....	1 05
E. E. Sherman.....	32

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 \$23 34

## Superintendent:—

Elmer E. Sherman.....	\$550 00
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## Incidentals:—

C. J. Bailey & Co., Rubber tips for chairs .....	\$3 00
Clark Ellis & Sons, school room sup- plies used in making repairs.....	14 50
Geo. S. Perry & Co., Dusters, Ther- mometers and rug.....	6 78
Geo. S. Perry & Co., desks and chairs for Primary room.....	102 80
C. B. Williams, Carting and Freight paid on desks and chairs.....	3 10
C. H. Allen, labor.....	1 00
H. W. Brown, repairing clocks.....	1 00
Thomas Groom & Co., order book.....	14 00
Albert Albee, labor and material fur- nished .....	4 00

Masten & Wells, flags.....	\$ 12 57
Otis Whitney & Son, labor and material furnished.....	24 37
Z. C. Field, lumber.....	3 66
Lewis Bates, labor on school yard, East.....	10 00
Mr. Whitney, repairing clock.....	50
Mrs. Cook, sundries.....	38
Austin Fletcher, freight paid and carting supplies.....	1 95
Mendon Grange, use of piano on Memorial Day.....	1 00
W. W. Nelson, labor.....	3 50
E. L. Smith, use of well.....	7 00
J. W. Estey, " " ".....	3 00
Miss Bicknell, " " ".....	2 00
E. E. Sherman cash paid stationery.....	3 53
" " " " traveling expenses.....	2 30
E. E. Sherman, express.....	70
" " printing.....	1 80
" " repairing clock.....	50
H. W. Gaskill, locks and keys.....	90
" " services as school committee.....	1 25
H. W. Gaskill, glass and setting.....	2 50
" " labor.....	1 00
" " taking school census.....	2 00
L. E. Taft, labor, material and cash paid.....	24 25
L. E. Taft, taking school census.....	1 00
" " Sundries.....	1 08
E. A. Snow, cash paid, traveling expenses.....	5 42
E. A. Snow, cash paid, postage.....	3 60
" " cash paid, express.....	2 80
" " cleaning up yard and other labor.....	1 40
E. A. Snow, services as School Committee.....	8 76
E. A. Snow, repairing flag.....	25
" " labor.....	2 25
" " taking school census.....	4 00
" " mowing school yard.....	3 00
" " sundries.....	32
" " services as secretary of School Committee.....	10 00

E. A. Snow, services as school book agent .....	\$ 8 00	
	<hr/>	\$312 71
		<hr/>
Cash on hand to pay what will be due teachers, janitors and for transportation of scholars at the end of the year, March 3, 1900.....		\$3,708 97
		<hr/>
		149 00
		<hr/>
Cost of schools for the year.....		\$3,857 97
Cash on hand unexpended.....		2 84
		<hr/>
		\$3,860 81
		<hr/>
From the cost of schools for the year.....		\$3,857 97
Take the amount of text books and supplies on hand more than they were last year .....		
	17 87	
Amount received for old lumber and rug .....	4 20	22 07
	<hr/>	
Net cost of schools for the year .....		\$3,835 90

### RECAPITULATION.

Resources.....		\$3,860 81
Expenditures :—		
Teachers' wages, including amount unpaid.....	\$2,247 03	
Fuel.....	103 00	
Care of rooms, including amount unpaid.....	97 90	
Text books and supplies.....	164 99	
Apparatus.....	23 34	
Superintendent.....	550 00	
Transportation of scholars, including amount unpaid.....	359 00	
Incidentals .....	312 71	
Cash on hand.....	2 84	
	<hr/>	\$3,860 81

## SUPPRESSION OF TRUANCY.

Appropriation .....	\$52 00
Paid Worcester County Truant School for confinement of Herbert Alger.....	36 12
	<hr/>
Balance on hand.....	\$15 88

HENRY W. GASKILL,  
ERWIN A. SNOW,  
LEONARD E. TAFT,

Mendon, Feb. 17, 1900.

School Committee.

## SCHOOL BOOK AGENT'S REPORT.

## DR.

To books and supplies purchased :—

Ginn & Co.....	\$12 01
Adams, Cushing & Foster.....	6 55
J. L. Hammett Co.....	9 88
Geo. F. King & Co.....	26 08
Geo. S. Perry & Co.....	40 17
Silver, Burdette & Co.....	29 40
Morse & Co.....	5 25
G. M. Billings.....	7 75
	<hr/>

\$164 99

Books and supplies on hand, Mar. 1,  
1899.....

79 24

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\$244 23

## CR.

By books and supplies furnished schools \$147 12  
 “ “ “ on hand March 1,  
 1900.....

97 11

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\$244 23

ERWIN A. SNOW,

Mendon, Feb. 11, 1900.

School Book Agent.

## COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

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OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF THE DISTRICT POLICE,

STATE HOUSE, BOSTON, Mass., January 19, 1900.

MR. HENRY W. GASKILL,

Chairman of School Committee, Mendon, Mass.

Dear Sir:

I have made an inspection of the East school building and the Town Hall school building in the town of Mendon. The first is a one-story, one-room building without any suitable means of ventilation, and in its present condition not suitable for school purposes. The Town Hall school building contains three school rooms, in two of which no means of ventilation worth considering are provided. In the upper room, which is also used for a Town Hall, an attempt has been made to ventilate by means of small ventilators in the ceiling which are not suitable to meet the requirements of good ventilation. The air in the two lower rooms was found to be foul and not fit for the scholars to breathe.

Suitable means of ventilation should be provided to meet the requirements of the state law.

As the matter of a new school building is under consideration by your town, I shall delay issuing an order relating to these buildings until a reasonable opportunity is afforded the town to take action in relation to a new building.

The means of exit from the Town Hall building are not what they should be.

In case it becomes necessary to issue orders on these buildings it will be required that the order be fully complied with and the case will not be allowed to rest with a partial compliance, as was done in a former order.

Very Respectfully Yours,

JOSEPH A. MOORE,  
State Inspector of Public Buildings.

# SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

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TO THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE OF MENDON,

Gentlemen :—The sixth annual report of the present Superintendent of schools is hereby presented.

## STATISTICS 1898-99.

The statistics cover the period from September 1898 to June 1899. Formerly they have been reckoned from January to January, but the State Board of Education has changed the plan and it is now required that the statistics of attendance, etc., shall include the natural school year, beginning with the fall term and ending with the spring term. The statistics furnished in this report include those of the fall term of 1898 which were also included in the preceding report. In round numbers the figures for 1898-'99 are :

Total enrollment.....	168
Average membership.....	141
Average attendance.....	131
Per cent. of attendance.....	93

The severe winter and the prevalence of measles and other children's diseases reduced the per cent. of attendance from that of the preceding year. The per cent. for Massachusetts was 92. Mendon schools were, therefore, one per cent. above the state average. The number of tardy marks is 116 less than that of last year, while the number of dismissals, excuses from some portion of the day, is greatly reduced. All this is very encouraging, indicating more interest on the part of children and parents. A continuance of this record will lead to the formation of punctual and regular habits by the pupils and will increase the efficiency of the schools.

## A YEAR OF WORK.

There have been no changes of teachers during the year. Substitutes were placed for a time in the Albeeville and East Schools during the illness of teachers. We were fortunate in retaining the services of Mr. N. D. Clark in the High School. The success or failure of school work depends in large measure upon the teacher, and a change even of one good teacher for an-



other equally efficient retards the progress of the pupils. Those schools which have enjoyed the uninterrupted services of good teachers during the past year are to be congratulated.

The High School will have for the year 1899-1900 forty weeks of school. This is the statute year required for a standard high school in Massachusetts. By engaging the services of a competent teacher standard work can be done in our high school in English, Latin, and Mathematics. In the natural sciences we can do very little. Chemistry and physics require a room fitted with apparatus which can remain permanently in place. This is impossible in the Town Hall. Again one teacher cannot teach all subjects equally well, and specialists are now employed in high schools to teach their particular subjects. This is especially true of the sciences. The requirements for admission to colleges, normal and technical schools have been advanced greatly within the last ten years. With our present equipment it is impossible to fully prepare students for these institutions. I would suggest that those of our graduates who desire to prepare for higher work take an additional year in the Hopedale or Milford High school, and that the town be requested to pay the tuition.

A syllabus in "Elementary English" including reading, spelling, composition and grammar has been prepared by the superintendent.

It is hoped that the pupil who completes the grammar school will know how to read to himself quickly and to others distinctly and intelligently; will be able to compose a friendly or business letter with well arranged and clearly expressed thought, legible in penmanship and correct in grammar and spelling; will know the ordinary business forms; and will have the ability and desire to use correct English in his conversation. This last is especially difficult because of the habit of using poor English formed before the child reaches school age, from the street and often from the home. If parents realized the trouble they would save their children by using careful English in the home they would more often make the effort to speak correctly in the presence of the little ones. The "Mother English" clings through life.

In addition to these forms which we would make mechanical, the effort is made to form a taste for good literature, that the pupil will enjoy and seek for good reading. To further this undertaking a school library of some one hundred volumes suitable for young people has been provided for the use of the school children. It is gratifying to note how thoroughly this has been appreciated by the children as evinced by the amount and enthusiasm of their patronage.

## EDUCATIONAL IDEALS.

Everyone has ideals. One's ideals in any given line is more or less clear as he has devoted thought and investigation to the subject. It is true that his ideal will change, rising as his comprehension of the subject extends. Similar ideals held by a number of individuals constitute a public opinion. Upon the intelligence of the leaders depends the character of the opinion, whether it be enlightened and progressive, or otherwise.

The public hold ideals in the education of children. Some express the attitude of a former generation; others heeding the signs of the times in the progress of the world, seek to realize in education that which looks toward the equipment of the child for the life in the twentieth century.

Two things this latter class maintain our educational system should seek to aid in accomplishing—First: The development of *power* in the individual,—power to think, power to do. Each child is endowed by nature with a certain amount of brains. Education should develop what he has, and teach him to use them. One person is a good scholar but can make but little use of his knowledge; another, with but little learning, can nevertheless apply what he does know to good effect. Neither is well educated; for to be educated one must have both knowledge and the power to use it. Another attribute of a good education is perseverance in application, the will and ability to stick to a thing until it is mastered.

All subjects pursued in school will, if properly taught and studied, develop the power of thought. Some, notably drawing and Sloyd or wood-working, will give practice in doing. Industrial drawing not only requires thought on the part of the student to master the conditions of the given problem, but demands that he execute with his hand and eye what he understands with his head. Sloyd, goes still further, and obliges him to express in the solid wood by the labor of his hands, the requirements of the plan he has previously drawn. The study of mathematics and of the structure of language strengthens the power of application and develops reason. It is not so much the subject studied as the manner and habit of study that develop the mind. The first view may be skillfully presented by the teacher, but the pupil must work if he would gain the knowledge and power. A large part of the teacher's duty lies in inducing the pupil to put forth his effort upon the task before him.

Second: The culture of taste and sentiment, what is termed the development of the æsthetic side of the child's nature; and it is in this that the newer education differs most sharply from the older ideals. Our fathers were forced to devote their energies to the conquering of a new country. The struggle for existence

took their time and attention. This habit of thought they left to their children and it was continued long after the sharp necessity that gave it birth had passed away. The Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia was an eye-opener to the Americans. It taught us that the peoples across the sea were far ahead of us in all those manufactures and arts whose products are demanded by a cultivated taste. The leaders realized that if we were to compete with the world something must be done to educate the rising generation in directions hitherto largely neglected. Massachusetts imported an Englishman to organize a system for teaching drawing in the public schools. Natural science, music, history and literature began to receive attention, and were rapidly incorporated into the work of the common schools. All this will have a direct commercial value to the republic and it will have an ennobling, elevating influence upon the life of the people.

We would not omit anything from the first ideal, the power to think, to do, to persevere; but we must not neglect the second, taste and sentiment, if we value the life of the nation, if we would have good citizenship—noble sentiments that will desire beauty and righteousness, and a discriminating taste to aid in choosing the true from the false.

### THE PUBLIC SCHOOL OF TO-DAY.

Greater attention than ever before is being given to public education. We hear criticisms and suggestions from all sides. The schools are a frequent topic of discussion and furnish many subjects for the lecture platform, and the newspapers and periodicals voice the popular interest. This is well. Great differences of opinion are expressed. There are those who think the schools overwork the children and who advocate shorter hours and easier tasks; others claim that the pupils do not work, that everything is made too easy for the child. Some wish a less variety of subjects taught and would restrict the work to the three R's of the old-time school. On the other hand there is a constant pressure brought to bear upon school authorities to add more subjects to the curriculum, some even seeking legislative action to enforce their claims. Each and every critic of the schools can find in some place and at some time ground upon which to base his criticism. In the evolution of our civilization and the attempts of public education to adapt itself to the changing conditions, the pendulum of reform has often swung too far in one direction. But the schools are what the public make them and are sure eventually to reach the happy medium evolved from the common sense of the majority.

The assertion that the old district school fitted men for life

more successfully than do the schools of to-day is often heard, and the names of men who have achieved greatness with a district school equipment are cited in support of the truth of the statement. The biographies of these men show that they spent little time in school and that the schools had in consequence small influence in shaping their careers. They were self-educated. They had to compete with men whose advantages had been no better. To-day a man's rivals are trained and educated, and whoever competes must needs have a similar equipment if he would be successful.

Many of the duties which in old times were performed in the home are now thrust upon the schools. Even the favored daughter of the well-to-do formerly had her daily "stent" of labor to perform. Children were taught at home what perseverance and righteousness meant. This home training is now too often neglected, and the school is expected to make good the loss.

The pupils of ordinary ability who form the great majority in any school, received very little from the district school. To-day it is the exception to find in a public school a child of ordinary ability, twelve years of age, who cannot read and write intelligently, and in whose heart some seeds of good citizenship have not lodged.

The successful young people in business, professional and public life to-day are almost without exception the products of a continuous training in our modern public schools,—schools which, with all their faults, are doing excellent work, and aiding more powerfully than any other one force in welding the varied interests of this republic into a great nation.

## THE NEEDS OF OUR SCHOOLS.

The greatest need of the Mendon schools is suitable school buildings. Many of the things demanded of the schools by the times cannot be done in our schools to-day because of the poor accommodations provided.

It is scarcely necessary to rehearse the urgent reasons for a new building in the center of the town, in which nearly all of the school children of Mendon could be accommodated. These reasons already appeal to those best able and willing to understand and appreciate them, and would have little weight with those who are opposed to a new building because they do not wish the town to spend money on a schoolhouse. This real reason is sometimes covered by the argument, "What was good enough for my father and me is good enough now." Would these people advance the same argument against electric cars and advocate the springless carts and rough roads of our fathers? Would they return to the open fireplace as the



only means of heating, call in the doctor to bleed them and engage the parson to regale them with a two hours' sermon in a cold meeting house? Would they be willing to use only the tools and appliances in the shop, on the farm and in the home which our fathers used? In a word would they be willing to practise in the other departments of life what they preach for the schools? Our fathers did get along without many of the conveniences and necessities of our modern life. It *wasn't* "good enough for them" but it was the best they could have. Where should we be to-day if they had not progressed and improved upon what they found? Are we living up to their standards?

All that is required in a plain, substantial building suitable for school purposes. Gentlemen, let us have it, and let us have it of our own free will without waiting for state compulsion in the matter.

It gives your Superintendent pleasure in closing to express his thanks for the very cordial spirit which has been shown him by the committee, the teachers, the pupils and the townspeople generally.

Respectfully submitted,  
E. E. SHERMAN,  
Superintendent of Schools.

## BRIEF EXTRACTS FROM EDUCATIONAL LAWS.

1. All children between 7 and 14, unless sick, feeble-minded, at an approved private school, or otherwise instructed in branches required by law, to the satisfaction of the School Committee, must attend the public school during the entire time of each school year. Penalty to parent or guardian for failure in attendance for five days' session within any period of six months, \$20.

2. No child under 14 can be employed "in any factory, workshop or mercantile establishment." "No such child shall be employed in any work performed for wages or other compensation" during the hours when the public school is in session nor before six o'clock in the morning or after seven in the evening.

3. No child under 16 can be employed in any factory, workshop, or mercantile establishment without a certificate from the Superintendent of Schools. He must present an employment ticket from the person who wishes to employ him, on applying for a certificate. The father, if living and a resident, must sign the certificate of age; if not, the mother; if neither, the guardian.

4. Children between 14 and 16 must either attend school or be regularly employed.

5. Children must be vaccinated before attending school, but a certificate from a regular physician, saying a child is an unfit subject for vaccination, allows attendance.

No child can attend school from a household in which there is a case of small-pox, diphtheria, scarlet fever, or measles, or from a household

exposed to contagion from a household as aforesaid. Two weeks after the death, removal or recovery of the patient in a case of the first three mentioned, or three days after in a case of measles, the child may return on presentation of a certificate from the attending physician or from the board of health.

6. "The last regular session prior to Memorial Day, or a portion thereof, shall be devoted to exercises of a patriotic nature."

7. A United States flag not less than four feet in length shall be displayed on the schoolhouse grounds or building every school day, when the weather will permit, and on the inside of the schoolhouse on other school days.

8. A written excuse stating cause of absence, and signed by parent or guardian, must be presented by the pupil on his return to school.

### TEACHERS, SEPTEMBER, 1899.

SCHOOL.	TEACHER.	WHERE FITTED.	SALARY.
High,	Newton D. Clark,	Dartmouth College.	\$600 00
Grammar,	Vina A. Dole,	N. H. Academy.	432 00
Primary,	Mary E. Dudley,	Mendon High.	360 00
North,	Florence E. Snow,	Mendon High.	324 00
East,	Annie B. Richardson,	Newbury't Training.	288 00
Albeeville,	Ruth B. Cornwell,	Friend's School.	324 00

### SCHOOL CALENDAR, 1899-1900.

	FALL TERM.		WINTER TERM.		SPRING TERM.	
	OPENS.	CLOSES.	OPENS.	CLOSES.	OPENS.	CLOSES.
Lower Schools, 36 Weeks,	Sept. 11 1899,	Dec. 22	Jan. 1, 1900,	Mar. 9,	Mar. 26,	June 15
High School 40 weeks,	Sept. 5, 1899,	Dec. 22	Jan. 1, 1900,	Mar. 23	April 2	June 22

## SCHOOL CALENDAR, 1900-1901.

	FALL TERM.		WINTER TERM.		SPRING TERM.	
	OPENS.	CLOSES.	OPENS.	CLOSES.	OPENS.	CLOSES.
Lower Schools, 36 weeks,	Sept. 10 1900,	Dec. 14	Dec. 31 1900,	Mar. 8 1901,	Mar. 25	June 14
High School 40 weeks.	Sept. 4 1900.	Dec. 21	Dec. 31	Mar. 15 1901.	Mar. 25	June 21

## HOLIDAYS DURING THE TERMS:

Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and Friday following, Washington's Birthday, Patriots' Day and Memorial Day.



## STATISTICS—SEPT. 1898 TO JUNE 1899.

SCHOOLS.	Average Member-ship.	Average attend-ance.	Per Cent. of Attend-ance.	Total enrol-ment.	Days of Absence.	Tardy	Dis- missed.	Truants.	Corporal Punish- ment.	Visits by Superin- tendent.	Visits by others.
High	18.36	17.21	93.76	21	206	51	38	0	0	23	7
Grammar	33.09	31.53	93.70	36	371½	36	74	0	4	30	43
Primary	36.48	33.82	92.70	46	479½	31	49	2	0	24	31
North	15.20	14.01	92.16	16	212	48	31	0	0	19	22
East	17.52	15.97	91.17	21	260½	22	15	2	1	22	49
Albeeville	19.88	18.13	91.21	28	314½	21	15	1	0	25	6
Totals	140.53	130.67	92.98	168	1844	209	222	5	5	143	158

## Boys. Girls. Totals.

Number under five years of age	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	0
Number between five and fifteen	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	68
Number over fifteen	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	11
Number between seven and fourteen	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	48
								102

### School Census Statistics:

Number of children in town between 5 and 15, Sept. 1, 1899.	.	.	.	.	68	136
Number of children in town between 7 and 14, Sept. 1, 1899.	.	.	.	.	49	96

# COURSE OF STUDY IN THE MENDON HIGH SCHOOL.

## FIRST YEAR.

A. Latin, Latin, Latin, Latin,	B. Algebra, Algebra, Algebra, Algebra,	C. English History, English History, English History, English History,	D. English Grammar, English Grammar, English Grammar, English Grammar.
Latin, Latin, Latin, Latin,	Geometry, Geometry, Geometry, Geometry,	French, French, French, French,	Book-keeping, Arithmetic. Book-keeping, Arithmetic. Book-keeping, Arithmetic. Book-keeping, Arithmetic.
Latin, Latin, Latin, Latin,	Physics, Physics, Physics, Physics,	French, French, French, French,	Physical Geography. Physical Geography. United States History. United States History.
Latin, Latin, Latin, Latin,	General History, General History, General History, General History,	Rhetoric, English Literature, English Literature, English Literature,	Civil Polity. Civil Polity. Commercial Law. Commercial Law.

One period a week is devoted by each pupil to recitation in news of the day, and one to rhetorical.  
 General exercises daily including spelling, mental arithmetic, temperance and music.  
 The Latin course includes A, B and C; the English course, B, C and D.  
 Each year is divided into quarters of ten weeks each.  
 Alternates: Third and fourth years under A, and the same under D.

# ROLL OF HONOR.

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The following pupils have been neither absent nor tardy for the time specified:—

## NINE YEARS—TWO TERMS.

Frederick A. Snow—*High*.

## FIVE YEARS—TWO TERMS.

Mabel D. Snow—*Grammar*.

## THREE YEARS—TWO TERMS.

Edward F. Driscoll—*High*.

Rose E. Snow, John J. Driscoll—*Grammar*.

## ONE YEAR—TWO TERMS.

Mabel M. Taft—*Primary*.

## ONE YEAR.

Charlotte A. Snow, Charles V. Driscoll—*Primary*.

## FALL TERM.

Carrie Beal, Anna Pond—*High*.

Louise Curliss—*Grammar*.

William A. Curliss, Chester A. Wheeler. Herbert S. Wood, Albert I. Cromb—*Primary*.

Florence I. Aldrich, Abbie M. Darling—*North*.

Ruth Worthen—*East*.

## WINTER TERM.

Eliza Fletcher, Earle Lowell, Oliver Moores—*High*.

Anna Cook, Carrie E. Wood, Raymond Barrows, George W. Cromb, Bertie Moores, Louisa J. Congdon, Charles B. Congdon—*Grammar*.

Roy A. Barrows, Carl M. Taft, William A. Curliss—*Primary*.

Abbie M. Darling, Homer C. Darling—*North*.

Chester Rowe, Edmund Rowe—*East*.

Arthur Johnson—*Albeeville*.

## SPRING TERM.

Anna Pond, Lillian Freeman, William Driscoll—*High*.

Louise Curliss, Raymond Barrows—*Grammar*.

Roy A. Barrows, Catherine A. Harrington, Henry J. Wood, Carl M. Taft, Harold Barrows—*Primary*.

Everett A. Eldredge—*North*.

Alice G. Coffin, Lizzie Smith—*Albeeville*.

## AN OUTLINE FOR THE STUDY OF GEOGRAPHY.

## FIRST YEAR.

Oral language work. Teach out-door lessons whenever practicable.

I. Directions: East, West, North, South. Teach horizon: the four points on the horizon. The pupil may write on the corresponding points in a circumference the letters E, W, N, S.

II. Distance: horizontal, vertical. Use a foot rule as a unit of measure. Have pupil measure, and estimate distances.

III. Forms of water: cloud, fog, mist, rain, dew, frost, snow, ice, hail. Talk of these things when they can be observed out-of-doors. Review often.

IV. A general review should be made at the end of the year.

## SECOND YEAR.

I. Review the work of the previous year, going more carefully into "Forms of water."

II. Directions—semi-cardinal directions and points of the horizon. Locate at seat, upon a circumference. Estimate and measure horizontal and vertical distances.

III. Keep a simple daily weather record on the board. Have each pupil keep a copy on paper. [The geography should come under language and seat work.]

IV. A general review.

### THIRD YEAR.

I. The Sand-table. Select some local bit of country. Two hills with valley between drained by a stream or pond would be good. Invite the class to visit the place with you if practicable. Then have the pupils mould a sand-map of the locality visited. Follow by maps of the same drawn at the seats upon paper. Repeat the above exercises with other parts of local geography. Teach the idea of a scale by having pupils draw a yardstick, then a blackboard, then a sand-map to a scale. Review directions and apply to maps.

II. Keep a weather record.

III. Geographical terms. Illustrated by the sand-table exercises outlined above, the following terms may be learned and intelligently used: hill, valley, plain, slope, spring, brook, river, lake, ocean, cape, peninsula, island, bay, strait, temperature, weather, rocks, stones, clay, sand, gravel, loam, soil. Do not have definitions committed. Illustrate also by pictures, and sketches by teacher, copied by pupil. The geography may alternate with other nature study. No text-book used this year.

IV. A review should occupy the first four weeks of the second half-year, and a general review of the year's work be taken in June.

### FOURTH YEAR.

I. Review with sand-table the geographical terms studied last year. Draw a local map upon board and paper, and have pupil mould it upon the sand-table. Review the scale drawing and have the pupil study the scales of maps in the text-book, measuring distances with the ruler. Have the pupil mould a map of Massachusetts. Learn additional terms, as mountain, parts of a mountain, mountain range, mountain system, plateau, parts of a river, tributary, delta, river system, river basin. Illustrate with sand where practicable, with pictures with sketches and maps drawn by the pupil and with text-book maps.

II. The earth as a whole. [Each pupil should have a small globe and the teacher a large one. The pupil should record the facts learned in a note-book.]

1. The form of the earth.

2. The earth in space. Does it move and how? Compare with sun and moon.

3. The size of the earth. (a) compared with other heavenly bodies. (b) absolutely, circumference, radius.

4. The hemispheres, poles, equator, parallels, tropics, meridians. How numbered?

5. Continents and oceans. Named and recognized from globe first, then wall-map of the world, followed by quick drawings by the pupil to fix general outline and relative positions of land divisions. Proportion of land and water.

6. The world-ridge. Rough diagram by pupil.

7. The text-book. [The text-book may have been referred to

for pictures and maps, but not studied previous to this time.] The first thirty pages of the *Frye Primary* should be thoroughly studied, definitions committed. Questions on text written by teacher on board and written answers prepared by pupil. Oral recitations.

III. The work should be reviewed during the first four weeks of second half-year, and a general review of the entire year should be given in June.

## FIFTH YEAR.

I. Review "The Earth as a Whole," Topic II, Fourth Year.

II. Study temperature, seasons, plants and animals, *Frye* pp. 75 to 85.

III. The study of South and North America from the *Frye Primary*, according to the following topics:

1. South America. (a) Surface, pp. 31 and 34. (b) Drainage, pp. 33 and 34. (c) Principal countries, p. 106. (d) Review with map studies pp. 33 and 74. [Have the pupil answer the questions with book open at the map at the first recitation, then at the second recitation, with book closed.]

2. North America. (a) Surface, pp. 35, 37, 38, 40. (b) Drainage, pp. 39, 40. (c) Principal countries, p. 104. (d) Study articles 90, 91, pp. 62 to 66. (e) Review with map studies, pp. 37 and 74.

3. The United States, pp. 86 to 103. (a) Surface. (b) Drainage. (c) People. (d) Productions, refer to Topic II. (e) Routes of trade and trade centres, pp. 100 to 103. (f) New England, pp. 129 to 131. (g) Massachusetts, p. 134. [The pupil should keep a note book in which he writes the topics as he studies them, and under each topic he records notes dictated by the teacher, draws simple maps, makes sketches, and pastes pictures to illustrate the work. Encourage originality of illustration. The teacher should make daily use of globe and wall-map.]

IV. Review. (See Topic III under Fourth Year.)

## SIXTH YEAR.

I. Review the map studies of North and South America and the United States as indicated under Fifth Year, or *Frye's Elements*, articles 72, 73, 92, 93, 143 and p. 116, or *Frye's Complete*, articles 56, 33, 126, 146, or map questions in any good text-book in the hands of the pupils, covering South America, North America, New England and Massachusetts. Read *Frye's Elements* to page 53, reciting carefully upon the map questions, or read *Redway's Advanced* to page 43, reciting upon questions marked *Tests*.

II. Asia.

1. Surface. *Frye's Elements*, articles 98 and 100, or *Redway's Advanced*, pp. 113 and 114.

2. Drainage. *Frye's Elements*, articles 101 to 104. *Redway's Advanced*, pp. 114, 115.

3. Countries and cities. *Frye's Elements*, pp. 155 to 160. *Redway's Advanced*, pp. 135 to 142.

4. Map studies. [Learn to sketch rapidly the outline of the continent and place and name the important features of the above topics, also the principal projections and indentations. Use also printed outlines and fill in facts learned as studied, also test by requiring printed outlines to be filled from memory. Use globe and



wall-map. See note regarding pupil's note book, under Fifth Year.]

In Review. [See Topic III under Fourth Year.]

### SEVENTH YEAR.

I. Review Asia by drilling pupils upon the filling in of outline map from memory.

II. (a) Study of Latitude and Longitude. (b) Government.

III. Europe.

#### *Outline X.*

1. Review. (a) Position—in hemispheres, bounding waters, latitude and longitude, relative position to other continents. (b) Part of the world-ridge in the continent. (c) River systems. (d) Climate, winds, ocean currents, rainfall. (e) Distribution of minerals, plants and animals.

2. Natural sections. (a) Slopes, highlands, plains, basins. [Lead the pupil to see how the climate, soil and other geographical features influence the life of the people.] (b) Continental islands.

3. The people of the continent. (a) The distribution of races. (b) States of society as savage, civilized, etc. (c) Productive areas, manufacturing sections, trade routes and centers. (d) Political divisions; name in order, government, capital cities, readings as time will permit.

4. Special study of the British Isles, Russia, Germany, France, Austria, Italy and Spain.

#### *Outline Y.*

1. Position in the continent, area, extent, boundaries, compare with other nations of the continent and with the United States in area, population and political and commercial importance.

2. The people, race, government, education, religion, occupations, industries, habits and customs, peculiar characteristics, civilization, geographical and historical readings as time will permit.

IV. Review. (See Topic III under Fourth Year.)

### EIGHTH YEAR.

I. A review of Europe. Outline X.

II. Africa and Australia. Outline X.

III. Oceanica.

IV. A review of latitude and longitude, the movements of the earth and their effects.

V. A review of North America, Outline X, and of the United States, Outline Y.

VI. If time admits, a review of South America, Outline X, with Brazil, Outline Y, and of Asia, Outline X, with China and Japan, Outline Y. [Review by imaginary journeys.]

### NINTH YEAR.

A ninth year would admit of a review along the lines of commercial geography, and of a course in physical geography.



# TOWN WARRANT.

*Worcester, ss.*—To the Constable of the Town of Mendon,  
in the County of Worcester, Greeting:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are directed to notify the inhabitants of the Town of Mendon qualified to vote in elections and in town affairs, to meet at the Town Hall, in said Mendon, on Monday, the fifth day of March, next, punctually at 10 o'clock, A. M., to act on the following articles, viz :

ARTICLE I. To choose a Moderator to preside in said meeting.

ARTICLE 2. To hear the reports of the several town officers and committees and act thereon.

ARTICLE 3. To choose all necessary town officers for the year ensuing.

ARTICLE 4. To raise such sums of money as are necessary to defray town charges, and make appropriations of the same.

ARTICLE 5. To see if the town will vote to accept the list of jurors reported by the Selectmen, or make any alteration in the same.

ARTICLE 6. To see what measures, if any, the town will adopt to secure the speedy collection of taxes.

ARTICLE 7. To see if the town will authorize the Treasurer to hire money to pay current expenses for the municipal year commencing March 5th, 1900, in anticipation of the collection of the taxes.

ARTICLE 8. To bring in their ballots "Yes" or "No" in answer to the question, "Shall licenses be granted for the sale of intoxicating liquors in this town?"

ARTICLE 9. To see if the town will continue communication by telephone with Milford, as security against destruction by fire, or act in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 10. To see if the town will vote to discontinue the road leading from the Old Boston and Hartford Turnpike, near the residence of Samuel W. Wood, to the Mendon and Uxbridge road, near the residence of Edward L. Southwick, or act in any manner in relation thereto.

ARTICLE II. To see if the town will vote to establish bounds at all the angles of the Milford road from the watering tub to the Hopedale town line, where such bounds are not now established, or act in any manner in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 12. To see if the town will vote to pay twenty cents per hour for shoveling snow the ensuing year.

ARTICLE 13. To see if the town will vote to instruct the selectmen to establish before April 1st, 1900, the line of the Providence and Worcester road, between the lands of George H. Whiting and Nathan R. George, and make the angles thereof, or act in any manner in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 14. To see if the town will appoint a committee and authorize it to put in a wasteway from the watering tub near the residence of Edward Dudley, and appropriate money for the same, or act in any manner in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 15. To see if the town will vote an additional appropriation for the publication of the Mendon Proprietors Records.

ARTICLE 16. To see if the town will vote to sell the schoolhouses in the South and West districts, so-called, or take any action in relation to the same.

ARTICLE 17. To see what sum of money, if any, the town will vote to raise and appropriate, for special repairs of the Primary schoolhouse at the Center, or act in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 18. To see if the town will vote to purchase or take a piece of land, at Mendon Center, as a site for a school building, or act in any manner in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 19. To see if the town will vote to build a school building, at Mendon Center, determine the size and form of the same, or act in any manner in relation to such a building.

ARTICLE 20. To see if the town will appropriate any sum of money for Memorial Day and select a committee to have charge of said appropriation.

ARTICLE 21. To see if the town will, by its vote, adopt the so-called Australian ballot system.

And you are directed to serve this warrant, by posting up attested copies thereof at each of the following places in said town, seven days at least before the time of holding said meeting, viz:—At the post-office, and on the guideboard near the schoolhouse in Albeeville, and at the post-office in South Milford.

Hereof fail not and make due return of this warrant, with your doings thereon, to the Selectmen or Town Clerk, before the time of meeting aforesaid.

Given under our hands at Mendon, this nineteenth day of February, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred.

LIBERTY FREEMAN,  
GEORGE M. TAFT,  
EDWARD C. KINSLEY,

Selectmen of Mendon.

A true copy, Attest:

CONSTABLE OF MENDON.